

April 24, 2014

KANSAS BULLETIN NO. KS300-14-36

SUBJECT: LTP-Clarification for Sodbust Determination on Form NRCS-CPA-026e

Purpose. To provide clarification on the policy for utilizing "SodBust (Y/N)" when completing Form NRCS-CPA-026e

Expiration Date. September 30, 2015

Sodbust is a term often used when discussing highly erodible land (HEL) and conservation compliance. Despite this, it is not specifically defined in the National Food Security Act Manual (NFSAM). From the context of the term's use, we can determine that sodbust means to convert land that is HEL and has no cropping history before December 23, 1985, from native vegetation to crop production.

Based on this information, the question for sodbust on Form NRCS-CPA-026e, HEL/Wetland Conservation (WC) Determination, will be answered "Yes" only if the determination for the field in question is HEL <u>and</u> a portion of the land in the field did not have cropping history before December 23, 1985. All others will be answered "No."

The need to complete Form NRCS-CPA-026e may be triggered by either an AD-1026 request or a FSA-569, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Report of HEL Conservation (HELC) and WC Compliance. The nature of the trigger has no bearing on how the question of "Sodbust" is answered. Either form may or may not result in a determination of "yes" for sodbust.

Contact: Forward questions through established channels to Chad G. Volkman, Resource Conservationist at chad.volkman@ks.usda.gov or (785) 823-4568.

(signed)

ERIC B. BANKS State Conservationist

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